

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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FOR IO/IWP

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SGEN, AORG
SUBJECT: DRAFT CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION
AGAINST WOMEN; APPROVAL OF ARTICLE 21 CONCERNING PRO-
CEDURES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

1. COMMISSION TODAY ADOPTED ARTICLE 21 BASED ON A
REVISED TEXT SUBMITTED BY IRAN, INDIA, EGYPT AND DENMARK
THAT READS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT:

1. STATES PARTIES UNDERTAKE TO ADOPT MEASURES AT THE NATIONAL
LEVEL, INCLUDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MACHINERY AND PROCEDURES
AIMED AT ACHIEVING THE FULL REALIZATION OF THE RIGHTS
RECOGNIZED IN THE PRESENT CONVENTION.
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2. (A) EVERY TWO YEARS FOLLOWING THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE
CONVENTION, STATES PARTIES UNDERTAKE TO SUBMIT TO THE SECRETARY-
GENERAL REPORTS ON THE LEGISLATIVE, JUDICIAL, ADMINISTRATIVE
OR OTHER MEASURES WHICH THEY HAVE ADOPTED AND ON THE PROGRESS
MADE IN IMPLEMENTING THE PROVISIONS OF THE PRESENT CONVENTION.

REPORTS MAY INDICATE FACTORS AND DIFFICULTIES AFFECTING THE DEGREE OF FULFILMENT OF OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE PRESENT CONVENTION.

(B) IN PREPARING THEIR REPORTS STATES PARTIES SHALL MAKE USE OF NATIONAL MACHINERY ESTABLISHED TO PROMOTE THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND OF THE APPROPRIATE NATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION.

(C) STATES PARTIES SHALL FURNISH THEIR REPORTS IN STAGES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PROGRAMME TO BE ESTABLISHED AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE STATES PARTIES AND THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES CONCERNED.

3. FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION BY THE STATES PARTIES THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN SHALL ESTABLISH AN AD HOC GROUP CONSISTING OF 10 TO 15 PERSONS. THE GROUP SHALL BE ELECTED BY THE COMMISSION FROM AMONG ITS OWN MEMBERS WHO ARE STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION AND FROM AN ADDITIONAL LIST OF PERSONS NOMINATED BY STATES PARTIES WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION, CONSIDERATION BEING GIVEN TO THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND REPRESENTATION OF DIFFERING LEGAL SYSTEMS. THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP SHALL SERVE IN THEIR PERSONAL CAPACITY AND SHALL BE ELECTED EVERY TWO YEARS.

4. THE AD HOC GROUP SHALL NORMALLY MEET FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE OPENING OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN, TO CONSIDER THE REPORTS SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARA. 2 ABOVE.

5. THE AD HOC GROUP SHALL REPORT TO THE COMMISSION ON THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STATUS OF WOMEN ON ITS ACTIVITIES AND MAY MAKE GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON THE EXAMINATION OF THE REPORTS FROM THE STATES PARTIES. THE COMMISSION SHALL TRANSMIT THE REPORT OF THE GROUP TOGETHER WITH ITS OWN COMMENTS, TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL.

6. SPECIALIZED AGENCIES SHALL BE ENTITLED TO BE REPRESENTED AT THE DIFFERENT STAGES OF THE CONSIDERATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUCH PROVISION OF THIS CONVENTION AS FALL WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THEIR ACTIVITIES. THEY SHALL BE ENTITLED TO SUBMIT REPORTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RELEVANT INSTRUMENTS ADOPTED BY THEM OR UNDER THEIR AUSPICES.

7. THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL SHALL SUBMIT PERIODICALLY TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPORTS WITH RECOMMENDATIONS AND A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE STATES PARTIES TO THE PRESENT CONVENTION AND THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES ON THE MEASURES TAKEN AND THE PROGRESS MADE IN ACHIEVING FULL

OBSERVANCE OF THE RIGHTS RECOGNIZED IN THE PRESENT CONVENTION.

8. THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL MAY BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF OTHER ORGANS OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THEIR SUBSIDIARY ORGANS AND SPECIALIZED AGENCIES CONCERNED WITH FURNISHING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO ANY MATTERS ARISING OUT OF THE REPORTS REFERRED TO IN THIS PART OF THE PRESENT CONVENTION WHICH MAY ASSIST SUCH BODIES IN DECIDING, EACH WITHIN ITS FIELD OF COMPETENCE, ON THE ADVISABILITY OF INTERNATIONAL MEASURES LIKELY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE EFFECTIVE PROGRESSIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRESENT CONVENTION.

END TEXT.

2. USDEL UNSUCCESSFUL IN EFFORTS TO AMEND PARA 3 OF ARTICLE 21 TO PERMIT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AD HOC GROUP WHOSE MEMBERSHIP WOULD BE COMPRISED OF STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION AND NOT NECESSARILY MEMBER STATES OF THE STAUTS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF WOMEN COMMISSION. HOWEVER, SOLIDARITY OF WEO GROUP MAINTAINED IN VOTE 8 (US) - 13 (USSR) - 0 WITH US, UK, GREECE, BELGIUM, SWEDEN, DENMARK, CANADA, FRANCE VOTING IN SUPPORT OF US AMENDMENT, AND USSR, IRAN, MEXICO, PAKISTAN, THAILAND, TOGO, INDONESIA, HUNGARY, CUBA, EGYPT, DGR AND OTHERS OPPOSED.

3. THOSE OPPOSED TO US AMENDMENT MAINTAINED THAT AMENDMENT WAS PREJUDICIAL TO MANDATE OF COMMISSION AND JEOPARDIZED COMPETENCY OF COMMISSION. CONSENSUS ACCORDED ON ALL OTHER PARAS AND ON THE RESOLUTION AS A WHOLE.

4. US SUBMITTED THE FOLLOWING: QUOTE: WE BELIEVE THAT A MUCH BROADER-BASED, MORE JUST REPRESENTATION ON THE AD HOC GROUP, STATES PARTIES SERVING IN THEIR PERSONAL CAPACITY, WOULD HAVE SERVED THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN MORE EFFECTIVELY. THEREFORE THE US WISHES TO STATE ITS RESERVATION TO PARA 3 OF ARTICLE 21 AND REQUEST THAT THE RESERVATION BE PLACED IN THE RECORDS OF THE MEETING. UNQUOTE.

5. BELGIAN EFFORT TO FURTHER AMEND ARTICLE 21 TO STRENGTHEN IMPLEMENTATION BY ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR NATIONALS TO ADDRESS THE AD HOC GROUP CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ALSO FAILED BY VOTE OF 8 (US - 11-3 WITH US, UK, FRANCE, SWEDEN, BELGIUM, CANADA, GREECE, DENMARK EXHIBITING CONTINUATION OF WEO SOLIDARITY. ASSUME THAT BELGIUM WILL RAISE ISSUE IN ECOSOC WHEN CONVENTION IS REVIEWED BY THAT BODY. CATTO

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